

Serial No.: 10/027,796
Amendment dated 23 December 2003
Reply to Office Action mailed 24 September 2003

Docket No.: 16,487

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A personal care garment comprising:
a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region extending
between the waist regions,

a first side panel extending from the front waist region;

a second side panel extending from the back waist region;

A4 a side seam connecting an edge portion of the first side panel to an edge
portion of the second side panel; and

a ribbon cover ~~connected to the garment~~ having a first edge portion
bonded to the first side panel and a second edge portion bonded to the second side
panel, the ribbon cover covering ~~at least a portion of~~ the side seam.

2. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the
side seam has a width of less than about 30 mm.

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3. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the side seam has a width of about 2 mm to about 10 mm.

4. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the side seam has a width of about 3 mm to about 5 mm.

A4 5. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the ribbon cover has a width of about 5 mm to about 50 mm.

6. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the ribbon cover has a width of about 7 mm to about 15 mm.

7. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the ribbon cover extends beyond a side edge of the side seam at least about 2 mm.

8. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the ribbon cover extends beyond a side edge of the side seam about 0 mm to about 15 mm.

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9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein an inner surface of the edge portion of the first side panel is bonded to an inner surface of the edge portion of the second side panel.

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13. (Currently Amended) The ~~absorbent~~ personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the ribbon cover is bonded ultrasonically.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~absorbent~~ personal care garment of Claim 1 wherein the ribbon cover is tearable.

15. (Currently Amended) A disposable garment, comprising:
a chassis comprising a front side panel and a back side panel, and
defining a waist opening and first and second leg openings;

a first side seam extending from the waist opening to the first leg opening connecting the front side panel and the back side panel;

a first ribbon cover ~~bonded to a surface of the garment~~ having a first edge portion bonded to the front side panel and a second edge portion bonded to the

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back side panel and extending from the waist opening to the first leg opening, the first ribbon cover covering ~~at least a portion of~~ the first side seam;

a second side seam extending from the waist opening to the second leg opening connecting the front side panel and the back side panel; and

AC a second ribbon cover ~~bonded to a surface of the garment~~ having a first edge portion bonded to the front side panel and a second edge portion bonded to the back side panel and extending from the waist opening to the second leg opening, the second ribbon cover covering ~~at least a portion of~~ the second side seam.

16. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 15 wherein the front side panel and the back side panel, the first ribbon cover and the second ribbon cover each comprises an elastic material.

17. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 15 wherein the first ribbon cover and the second ribbon cover each comprises an elastic material.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~personal care~~ disposable garment of Claim 15 wherein a width of the first ribbon cover is greater than a width of the

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first side seam and a width of the second ribbon cover is greater than a width of the second side seam.

19-37. (Canceled)

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38. (New) A personal care garment comprising:

a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region extending between the waist regions,

a first side panel extending from the front waist region;

a second side panel extending from the back waist region;

a side seam connecting an edge portion of the first side panel to an edge portion of the second side panel; and

a ribbon cover connected to the garment, the ribbon cover covering at least a portion of the side seam, wherein the ribbon cover has a width of about 5 mm to about 50 mm.

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39. (New) A personal care garment comprising:

a front waist region, a back waist region, and a crotch region extending between the waist regions,

AC a first side panel extending from the front waist region;

a second side panel extending from the back waist region;

a side seam connecting an edge portion of the first side panel to an edge portion of the second side panel; and

a ribbon cover connected to the garment, the ribbon cover covering at least a portion of the side seam, wherein the ribbon cover has a width of about 7 mm to about 15 mm.
